

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 242149

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DRAFTED BY: A:DGRIMES

APPROVED BY: A- MR. THOMAS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 242149

PASS SAM 26000 FOR HENKEL/HUNT

FOLL REPEAT MOSCOW 16767 ACTION SECSTATE INFO TOKYO 04 NOV 74
QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 16767

DEPARTMENT FOR "A" AND WHITE HOUSE FOR RUSTAND/HENKEL

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.)

SUBJ: PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO VLADIVOSTOK

REF: MOSCOW 16754

1. IN ADDITION TO STATING THAT SOVIETS HAD NO PLANS
FOR EITHER THEIR OR OUR ADVANCE GROUPS TO REMAIN BEHIND
AFTER DEPARTURE FROM VLADIVOSTOK OF U.S. PRE-ADVANCE
GROUP (REFTEL A), DEPUTY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL CHERNYSHEV
ALSO PROVIDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION DURING MEETING WITH
POL COUNSELOR AND EMBOFFS NOVEMBER 4.

2. SITE: CHERNYSHEV WAS VAGUE (AND REMAINED SO DESPITE
OUR PROBING) ON LOCATION OF SITE OF MEETINGS, SAYING ONLY
THAT IT WAS ISOLATED LOCATION ABOUT 16 KILOMETERS FROM
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PAGE 02 STATE 242149

CENTER OF VLADIVOSTOK "ON THE BANKS OF THE BAY NEAR

THE WATER." THE 55-MINUTE TRIP BY HELICOPTER PREVIOUSLY REFERRED TO EVIDENTLY RELATED TO TRIP FROM AIRPORT WHERE PRESIDENT'S PARTY WILL BE LANDING (I.E., NOT REPEAT NOT VLADIVOSTOK CIVILIAN AIRPORT) TO SITE OF MEETINGS. HE PROFESSED NOT TO KNOW AT WHICH AIRPORT PRESIDENT WILL ARRIVE AND INDICATED FINAL DECISION WOULD NOT BE MADE UNTIL HE AND HIS PARTY EXAMINED VARIOUS POSSIBLE LANDING PLACES "WITH OUR OWN EYES." CHERNYSHEV ALSO SAID THAT SITE HAD NO NAME, BUT THAT IT WAS IN A 3REST AREA" WITH GUEST HOUSES AND SANITORIUM. FLOOR PLANS OF RESIDENCES WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLY AFTER ARRIVAL IN AREA OF SOVIET ADVANCE PARTY NOVMEBER 10. IN RESPONSE TO OUR URGINGS, HE SAID HE WOULD CALL VLADIVOSTOK TODAY TO TRY TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT ELECTRICAL CURRENT AT SITE.

3. TRANSPORTATION: CHERNYSHEV STATED THAT BECAUSE OF UNPREDICTABLE WEATHER ALL POSSIBILITIES FOR TRANSPORTATION FROM AIRPORT TO SITE ARE BEING EXPLORED. HE SAID THAT ROAD, AIR (HELICOPTER) AND RAIL TRANSPORT WOULD ALL BE AVAILABLE.

4. ADVANCE PARTIES: CHERNYSHEV SAID SOVIET ADVANCE PARTY, WHICH HE WILL HEAD, WILL CONSIST OF ABOUT 15 PEOPLE INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF PROTOCOL, MFA PRESS DIVISION, SECURITY, COMMUNICATIONS AND INTOURIST (WHICH WILL HANDLE PRESS). SOVIET GROUP PLANS TO ARRIVE MORNING NOVEMBER 10 (IF AEROFLOT SCHEDULE HOLDS). HE SAID IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR EMBASSY GROUP TO ARRIVE EVEN ONE DAY EARLIER. CHERNYSHEV REITERATED THAT WHITE HOUSE PRE-ADVANCE GROUP SHOULD ARRIVE ABOUT SIX OR SEVEN IN THE EVENING, BUT "IN NO CASE BEFORE 5 P.M."

5. NUMBERS IN PARTY: CHERNYSHEV INDICATED AGAIN THAT SOVIETS ARE CONCERNED WITH NUMBERS IN ADVANCE AND PRESIDENT'S PARTIES. WHEN POL COUNSELOR GAVE HIM NOTE LISTING 44-MEMBER PRE-ADVANCE GROUP (PER RETEL B), CHERNYSHEV SAID ORIGINAL INFORMATION FROM STATE DEPARTMENT VIA SOVIET EMBASSY SHOWED ONLY 32 IN PARTY, PLUS CREW. WHEN ASKED ABOUT NEWS MEDIA PERSONNEL (MOSCOW 16750) CHERNYSHEV

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PAGE 03 STATE 242149

REPEATED WHAT KORNIYENKO TOLD AMBASSADOR, I.E., IF THEY WERE ON DOBRYNIN LIST THEY COULD JOIN PARTY. HOWEVER, HE INDICATED THAT SEDIA AND BRUNTON WERE NOT ON HIS CURRENT LIST. CHERNYSHEV STATED THAT U.S. SIDE ALWAYS INFLATED NUMBERS, CITING EXAMPLE OF SECRETARY'S RECENT VISIT WHEN SOVIETS ALLEGEDLY WERE TOLD THERE WOULD BE ABOUT TWENTY ACCOMPANYING SECRETARY AND PARTY SUBSEQUENTLY HAD 96 PEOPLE. SECRETARY WAS ANNOYED, HE

CLAIMED, AT FACT THAT SO MANY PEOPLE WERE ALONG WITH HIM. HE PROFESSED NOT TO UNDERSTAND WHY SO MANY SECURITY AGENTS WERE NEEDED, SINCE SOVIET UNION IS "SAFE PLACE" FROM STANDPOINT OF PRESIDENT'S SECURITY. HE INDICATED THAT NUMBERS WOULD BE WORKED OUT DURING MEETINGS BETWEEN ADVANCE PARTIES. NUMBERS IN PRESIDENTIAL PARTY ITSELF WILL NOT NEED TO BE SO HIGH, ACCORDING TO CHERNYSHEV, SINCE PRESIDENT'S VISIT IS "NOT OFFICIAL." DESPITE OUR URGING, HE INDICATED NO FLEXIBILITY WHATSOEVER WITH REGARD TO NUMBER OF EMBASSY OFFICERS NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE VISIT. IT HAD ALREADY "BEEN DECIDED," HE SAID, THAT NO MORE THAN FIVE PEOPLE FROM THE EMBASSY WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE VICINITY OF VLADIVOSTOK, WHICH HE EMPHASIZED WAS A CLOSED AREA.

6. VISAS FOR ADVANCE PARTY: CHERNYSHEV REITERATED SOVIET OPPOSITION TO BLANKET VISA WAIVERS AND SAID THERE WOULD BE DUTY PERSONNEL AT SOVIET EMBASSY TOKYO EVEN DURING SOVIET HOLIDAYS TO TAKE CARE OF LAST MINUTE VISA REQUESTS. SAID MFA WOULD ALERT SOVIET EMBASSY TOKYO AGAIN OF POSSIBILITY OF SUCH REQUESTS. WE POINTED OUT THAT LAST MINUTE CHANGES MIGHT BE MADE WHEN PRE-ADVANCE PARTY WAS IN SEOUL AND THAT VISAS WOULD NOT BE OBTAINABLE THERE. CHERNYSHEV OFFERED NO SPECIFIC REJOINER, BUT IMPLIED THAT WAY WOULD BE FOUND TO STRAIGHTEN OUT ALL ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTIES.

7. COMMENT: DIFFICULT TO JUDGE WHETHER CHERNYSHEV WAS BEING INGENUOUS IN ASSERTING THAT PRESIDENTIAL VISIT COULD BE HANDLED IN SUCH LOW-KEY MANNER. IN ANY CASE, QUITE CLEAR THAT THIS DECISION ALREADY MADE AT SOVIET WORKING LEVEL AND THAT ONLY FORCEFUL PRESENTATION AT HIGHER LEVELS WILL PERSUADE SOVS
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PAGE 04 STATE 242149

TO CHANGE THEIR MINDS.
STOESSEL

UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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